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S&H, Form: PTO/SB/30 (10/03)

QUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)

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(INCLUDING FILING FEE AND/OR PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME FEE)

OCT 2 4 2003 TC 1700

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. §132, effective May 29, 2000 provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

To: Commissioner for Patents Box RCE PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 First Named Inventor Application No. 10/018,931 Group Art Unit 1725 Filing Date December 26, 2001 Examiner L. Tran CPA Filing Date Confirmation No 8193 Title of Invention METHOD OF PROCESSING METAL MEMBERS This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 of the above-identified application. NOTE: 37 C.F.R. §1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. §1.5(d) (PTO/SB2/29) Instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (March 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice. 1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 (Box a or b must be completed) a. Previously submitted i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered). ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on iii. Other b. Enclosed							
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i. Amendment/Reply ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) iv. Other 2. Miscellaneous a. Suspension of action on the above identified application is requested under 37.0 F.B. \$400(a) for some interest.							
a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. §103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) required). b. Other							

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OCT 2 4 2003 TC 1700

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[Page 1 of 2]

	BAS	IC FEE	\$	770.00		
Since an Official Action set an <u>original</u> due date of <u>September 18, 2003</u> ,						
petition is hereby made for an extension of time to cover the date this						
RCE is filed, for which the requisite fee		•				
2 months (\$420); 3 months (\$950); 4 mg		\$110.00				
(\$2,010)):						
Suspension Fee (\$130.00)	\$	990 00				
Total of above Calculations = Reduction by 50% for filing by small entity (Note 37 C.F.R. 1.9, 1.27, 1.28).				880.00		
TOTAL FEES DUE =	\$	880.00				
			<u> </u>	000.00		
4. Small entity status:						
a. Verified Statement Claiming Small Entity Status.						
 b. A Verified Statement Claiming Small Entity Status was previously filed and such status is still proper and desired. 						
c. is no longer claimed.						
5. Other:						
6. METHOD OF PAYMENT						
A check in the amount of \$\\$880.00 is enclosed.						
Charge "TOTAL FEES DUE" to Deposit Account No. 19-3935. (A duplicate copy of this form is						
enclosed.)						
7. GENERAL AUTHORIZATION						
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 (filing fees) or 37 C.F.R. 1.17 (processing fees) during the prosecution of this application and of any related application(s) claiming benefit						
hereof pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §120 to maintain pendency hereof and of any such related application to:						
Deposit Account No. 19-3935.						
8. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS						
}	STAAS & HALSE	EY LLP				
21171						
∠ I I / I PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE						
CATERL INSCENSARY OFFICE						
9. SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OR AGENT REQUIRED						
NAME Michael J. Badagliacca REGISTRATIC		ON NO.	39,099			
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Docket No.: 725.1150

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

In re the Application of:

Toshiyuki GENDOH, et al.

OCT 2 4 2003 TC 1700

Serial No. 10/018,931

Group Art Unit: 1725

Confirmation No. 8193

Filed: December 26, 2001

Examiner: L. Tran

For: METHOD OF PROCESSING METAL MEMBERS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination and in response to the Office Action mailed June 18, 2003, and having a period for response set to expire on September 18, 2003. A Petition for a one-month extension of time, together with the requisite fee for same, is submitted herewith, thereby extending the period for response to October 18. 2003.

Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested. The following remarks are respectfully submitted.